

HONORABLE BENJAMIN H. SETTLE

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA

WASTE ACTION PROJECT,)	
)	No. 12-05441-BHS
Plaintiff,)	
)	CONSENT DECREE
v.)	
)	FOR CONSIDERATION
HAROLD LEMAY ENTERPRISES, INC.,)	
)	
Defendant.)	
_____)	

This matter comes before the Court on the parties' joint motion to approve and enter this consent judgment. Having thoroughly considered the joint motion and the relevant record, the Court hereby GRANTS the motion and ENTERS the following consent decree:

WHEREAS, Plaintiff Waste Action Project filed a Complaint on May 18, 2012 in Case No. 12-05441 and a First Amended Complaint on October 19, 2012 in Case No. 12-05445 against Defendant Harold LeMay Enterprises, Inc. ("LeMay") alleging violations of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251-1387, relating to discharges of stormwater from at its Facilities at 4200 and 4201 Olympic Highway East, Aberdeen, WA 98520, seeking declaratory and injunctive relief,

CONSENT DECREE: No. 12-05441-BHS
p. 1

Smith & Lowney, p.l.l.c.
2317 East John St.
Seattle, Washington 98112
(206) 860-2883

1 civil penalties and attorney's fees and costs (the "Litigation"); and

2 WHEREAS Defendant denied the relevant allegations of the Complaint and Amended
3 Complaint; and

4 WHEREAS, Plaintiff and Defendant agree that settlement of these matters is in the best
5 interest of the parties and the public, and that entry of this Consent Decree without additional
6 litigation or appeal is the most appropriate means of resolving this action; and

7
8 WHEREAS, Plaintiff and Defendant, by their authorized counsel, consent to the entry of
9 this Consent Decree in order to avoid the risks of further litigation and to resolve the controversy
10 between them;

11 NOW THEREFORE, without trial or appeal of any issue of fact or law, and without
12 admission by the Defendant of the facts or violations alleged in the Complaint and the First
13 Amended Complaint, and upon consent of the parties, and upon consideration of the mutual
14 promises herein contained, it is hereby
15

16 ORDERED, ADJUDGED AND DECREED as follows:

- 17 1. This Court has jurisdiction over the parties and subject matter of this action.
- 18 2. Each signatory for the parties certifies for that party that he or she is authorized to
19 enter into the agreements set forth below.
- 20 3. This Consent Decree applies to and binds the parties and their successors and
21 assigns.
- 22 4. This Consent Decree and any injunctive relief ordered within will apply to the
23 operation, oversight, or both by LeMay at its Facilities at 4200 and 4201 Olympic Highway
24 East, Aberdeen, WA 98520 (the "*Facilities*"), which are subject to National Pollutant
25
26

1 Discharge Elimination System Permit Nos. WAR004085 and WAR004084 (the “*NPDES*
2 *permits*”).

3 5. This Consent Decree constitutes a full and complete settlement of, and Plaintiff
4 releases, discharges, and forever gives up, the claims, demands, actions, and causes of action
5 alleged in the Complaint and First Amended Complaint and/or asserted under the Clean Water
6 Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251-1387, and/or the claims, demands, actions, and causes of action asserted
7 in the Litigation and/or that could have been asserted in the Litigation under the Clean Water Act
8 that arise from Defendant’s acts or failure to act at or near, and/or Defendant’s operations at, the
9 Facilities, whether wholly or in part in the past, up through and including the date of entry of this
10 Consent Decree.
11

12 6. This Consent Decree shall not constitute evidence in any proceeding, an admission
13 or adjudication with respect to any allegation of the Complaint or First Amended Complaint, any
14 fact or conclusion of law with respect to any matter alleged in or arising out of the Complaint or
15 First Amended Complaint, or the admission or evidence of any wrongdoing or misconduct on the
16 part of the Defendant or its successor.
17

18 7. In full and complete satisfaction of the claims, demands, actions, and causes of
19 action asserted in the Litigation including in the Complaint and First Amended Complaint, or that
20 could have been asserted in the Litigation, Defendant agrees to abide by and be subject to the
21 following terms and conditions:
22

23 a. LeMay will comply fully with all conditions of its National Pollutant
24 Discharge Elimination System Permit Nos. WAR004085 and WAR004084 and any
25 successor, modified, or replacement permits authorizing discharges of stormwater
26 associated with industrial activity from the Facilities;

1 b. For a period of one (1) year after the entry of the decree, LeMay shall, on a
2 quarterly basis, forward to WAP copies of all written correspondence to or from Ecology
3 related to its NPDES permits or stormwater discharges from the Facilities;

4 c. LeMay shall retain a qualified stormwater consultant to revise its
5 stormwater pollution prevention plans ("SWPPPs") to meet the requirements of the
6 *NPDES permits*. LeMay shall provide such consultant with a copy of the declaration filed
7 by Richard Horner in this matter as ECF No. 50 prior to the preparation of the draft
8 revised SWPPPs. Provision of the declaration does not constitute an admission by LeMay
9 regarding any alleged liability under the Clean Water Act. Within forty-five (45) days of
10 the entry of this Consent Decree, LeMay will prepare draft revised SWPPPs for its
11 *NPDES permits*;
12

13 d. LeMay shall provide a copy of the draft revised SWPPPs required by
14 subparagraph (b) above to WAP within sixty (60) days of the entry of the Consent
15 Decree;
16

17 e. WAP shall thereafter have thirty (30) days to comment on the revised
18 SWPPPs;
19

20 f. The revised SWPPPs, including any changes thereto that are made at
21 the sole discretion of LeMay, shall become executed no later than thirty (30) days after
22 the close of the comment period provided in subparagraph 7(e), above. LeMay's
23 decisions as to the revisions to its SWPPPs are not subject to referral to the Court
24 pursuant to the dispute resolution process in paragraph 11;

25 g. If LeMay resumes industrial activities at the Landfill Facility requiring an
26 NPDES stormwater permit, LeMay shall apply for coverage under an appropriate NPDES

1 permit.

2 8. Not later than thirty (30) days after the entry of this Consent Decree by this Court,
3 LeMay shall pay two hundred and ninety thousand dollars (\$290,000) to the Rose Foundation for
4 projects to improve the water quality of the Chehalis River Watershed and the Grays Harbor
5 Estuary as described in **Attachment A** this Consent Decree. Checks will be made to the order of
6 and delivered to: The Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment, Attn: Tim Little,
7 1970 Broadway, Ste. 600, Oakland, CA 94612. Payment will include the following reference in
8 a cover letter or on the check: "Consent Decree, WAP v. Harold LeMay Enterprises, Inc." A
9 copy of the check and cover letter, if any, will be sent simultaneously to WAP and its counsel.
10

11 9. Within thirty (30) days of entry of this Consent Decree by the Court, LeMay
12 shall pay Plaintiff's actual litigation fees, expenses, and costs (including reasonable attorney
13 and expert witness fees) incurred in this matter in the amount of one hundred thirty-five
14 thousand dollars (\$135,000) by check payable and mailed to Smith & Lowney, PLLC, 2317
15 East John St., Seattle, WA 98112, attn: Knoll Lowney. LeMay's payment shall be in full and
16 complete satisfaction of any claims Plaintiff has or may have, either legal or equitable, and of
17 any kind or nature whatsoever, for fees, expenses, and costs incurred in the Litigation.
18

19 10. A force majeure event is any event outside the reasonable control of LeMay
20 that causes a delay in performing tasks required by this decree that cannot be cured by due
21 diligence. Delay in performance of a task required by this decree caused by a force majeure
22 event is not a failure to comply with the terms of this decree, provided that LeMay notifies
23 WAP of the event; the steps that LeMay will take to perform the task; the projected time that
24 will be needed to complete the task; and the measures that have been taken or will be taken to
25
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1 prevent or minimize any impacts to stormwater quality resulting from delay in completing the
2 task.

3 LeMay will notify WAP of the occurrence of a force majeure event as soon as reasonably
4 possible but, in any case, no later than fifteen days after the occurrence of the event. In such
5 event, the time for performance of the task will be extended for a reasonable period of time
6 following the force majeure event.
7

8 By way of example and not limitation, force majeure events include

- 9 a. Acts of God, war, insurrection, or civil disturbance;
- 10 b. Earthquakes, landslides, fire, floods;
- 11 c. Actions or inactions of third parties over which defendant has no control;
- 12 d. Unusually adverse weather conditions;
- 13 e. Restraint by court order or order of public authority;
- 14 f. Strikes;
- 15 g. Any permit or other approval sought by LeMay from a government
16 authority to implement any of the actions required by this consent decree
17 where such approval is not granted or is delayed, and where LeMay has
18 timely and in good faith sought the permit or approval; and
19
20 h. Litigation, arbitration, or mediation that causes delay.
21

22 11. This Court retains jurisdiction over this matter. And, while this Decree remains in
23 force, this case may be reopened without filing fee so that the parties may apply to the Court for
24 any further order that may be necessary to enforce compliance with this decree or to resolve any
25 dispute regarding the implementation of or compliance with this Decree. In the event of a dispute
26 regarding implementation of, or compliance with, this Decree, the parties must first attempt to

1 resolve the dispute by meeting to discuss the dispute and any suggested measures for resolving
2 the dispute. The provisions of section 505(d) of the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1365(d),
3 regarding awards of costs of litigation (including reasonable attorney and expert witness fees) will
4 apply to any proceedings seeking to enforce the terms and conditions of this Consent Decree.

5
6 12. The parties recognize that, pursuant to 33 U.S.C. § 1365(c)(3), no consent
7 judgment can be entered in a Clean Water Act suit in which the United States is not a party prior
8 to 45 days following the receipt of a copy of the proposed consent judgment by the U.S. Attorney
9 General and the Administrator of the U.S. EPA. Therefore, upon the filing of this Consent
10 Decree by the parties, WAP will serve copies of it upon the Administration of the U.S. EPA and
11 the Attorney General, with copy to LeMay.

12
13 13. This Consent Decree will take effect upon entry by this Court. This Consent
14 Decree shall terminate upon fulfillment of Defendant's obligations under paragraphs 7(e), 8 and
15 9.

16 14. This Consent Decree may be modified only upon the approval of the Court.

17 15. If for any reason the court should decline to approve this Consent Decree in the
18 form presented, this Consent Decree is voidable at the discretion of either party. The parties
19 agree to continue negotiations in good faith in an attempt to cure any objection raised by the court
20 to entry of this Consent Decree.

21
22 16. Notifications required by this Consent Decree must be in writing. The sending
23 party may use any of the following methods of delivery: (1) personal delivery; (2) registered or
24 certified mail, in each case return receipt requested and postage prepaid; (3) a nationally
25 recognized overnight courier, with all fees prepaid; or (4) e-mail. For a notice or other
26 communication regarding this decree to be valid, it must be transmitted to the receiving party at

1 the one or more addresses listed below or to any other address designated by the receiving party
2 in a notice in accordance with this paragraph 16.

3 **if to WAP:**

4 Waste Action Project
5 PO Box 4832
6 Seattle 98194-0832
7 email: gwingard@earthlink.net

8 **and to:**

9 Knoll D. Lowney
10 Smith & Lowney PLLC
11 2317 East John St.
12 Seattle, WA 98112
13 email: knoll@igc.org

14 **if to LeMay**

15 Patrick Shea
16 Vice-President, General Counsel, and Secretary
17 Harold LeMay Enterprises, Inc.
18 3 Waterway Square Place, Suite 110
19 The Woodlands, TX 77380
20 email: PatS@WasteConnections.com

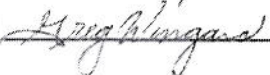
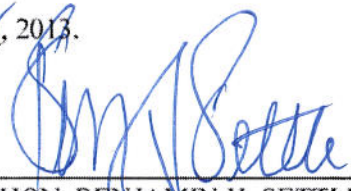
21 **and to:**

22 Lily N. Chinn
23 Beveridge & Diamond
24 456 Montgomery Street, Suite 1800
25 San Francisco, CA 94104
26 email: lchinn@bdlaw.com

A notice or other communication regarding this Consent Decree will be effective when
received unless the notice or other communication is received after 5:00 p.m. on a business day,
or on a day that is not a business day, then the notice will be deemed received at 9:00 a.m. on the
next business day. A notice or other communication will be deemed to have been received: (a) if
it is delivered in person or sent by registered or certified mail or by nationally recognized

1 overnight courier, upon receipt as indicated by the date on the signed receipt; or (b) if the
2 receiving party rejects or otherwise refuses to accept it, or if it cannot be delivered because of a
3 change in address for which no notice was given, then upon that rejection, refusal, or inability to
4 deliver; or (c) for notice provided via e-mail, upon receipt of a response by the party providing
5 notice or other communication regarding this Consent Decree.

7 WASTE ACTION PROJECT

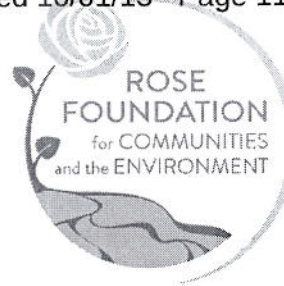
8 Signature: 9 Title: Executive Director10 Dated: 10/1/201312
13 HAROLD LEMAY ENTERPRISES, INC.14 Signature: 15 Title: Vice-President, General Counsel and Secretary16 Dated: 10/1/201317
18
19
20 DATED this 25 day of November, 2013.21
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23 
24 HON. BENJAMIN H. SETTLE
25 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE
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ATTACHMENT A

September 30, 2013 Rose Foundation Letter

1970 BROADWAY, SUITE 600, OAKLAND, CA 94612-2218
ROSE@ROSEFDN.ORG



WWW.ROSEFDN.ORG

OFFICE: 510.658.0702
FAX: 510.658.0732

9/30/13

Sarah Lu
Environment & Natural Resources Division
Law and Policy Section
P.O. Box 7415
Ben Franklin Station
Washington, D.C. 20044-7415

Re: Waste Action Project v. Harold Lemay Enterprises, Inc. (12-cv-05441-BHS)

Dear Ms. Lu,

This letter is intended to provide assurance that I have received the proposed Consent Decree between the Waste Action Project and Harold Lemay Enterprises, Inc. and that I am authorized by my Board of Directors to make the following binding commitments on behalf of the Rose Foundation.

- 1) I understand that the Rose Foundation should receive funds from Harold Lemay Enterprises, Inc. as specified in the Consent Decree.
- 2) The Rose Foundation shall only use these Harold Lemay Enterprises, Inc. funds to support projects intended to improve the water quality of the Chehalis River watershed and the Grays Harbor Estuary. None of the funds shall be used to support political lobbying activities.
- 3) After the funds have been disbursed, the Rose Foundation shall send a report to the Justice Department, the court and the parties describing how the funds were utilized and demonstrating conformance with the nexus of the Consent Decree.

Rose Foundation for Communities and the Environment

The Rose Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity (tax ID#94-3179772). Its mission is to support grassroots initiatives to inspire community action to protect the environment, consumers and public health. To fulfill this mission, the Rose Foundation conducts the following activities:

- Raise money to award as grants to qualified non-profit organizations conducting charitable operations.
- Work directly in schools and in the community to encourage environmental stewardship and civic participation.
- Help government efforts to control pollution and protect the environment by encouraging community engagement in local, state and federal research and policy development.

Within this broad range of activities, all of the Rose Foundation's work revolves around one or more of the following strategic themes:

- Build and maintain a bridge between the community and organized philanthropy.
- Protect the natural environment, public health, and community and consumer rights.
- Promote collaboration between labor, environmental, business, consumer and social interests.
- Cultivate a new generation of environmental stewards and social policy leaders.
- Respect the inalienable rights protected by our nation's constitution, and the essential human rights to clean air, clean water, and individual dignity and privacy.

The Rose Foundation is governed by a Board of Directors. Grant applicants are required to submit written proposals, which must include at a minimum specific information about the goals, activities and projected outcomes of the proposed project, background about the charitable applicant, budget information, and a specific funding request. The Foundation may require additional information in order to fully evaluate the application. Applications are first screened by Foundation staff. Staff then makes recommendations to the Foundation Board for action. The Foundation requires all projects to submit written reports within one year of receipt of the grant award describing work conducted under the grant, thereby providing an accountability mechanism over funds awarded. Annual audits by the certified public accounting firm Levy and Powers are posted on the Foundation's website www.rosefdn.org.

I hope this provides you with the information you require. Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions, or for additional information at (510) 658-0702 or tlittle@rosefdn.org.

Sincerely,



Tim Little, Executive Director

1 Presented by:

2 BEVERIDGE & DIAMOND, P.C.

SMITH & LOWNEY PLLC

3 s/Lily N. Chinn

By s/Knoll D. Lowney

4 Lily N. Chinn (admitted *pro hac vice*)

Knoll D. Lowney, WSBA #23457

5 456 Montgomery Street, Suite 1800

Elizabeth Zultoski, WSBA # 44988

6 San Francisco, CA 94104-1251

415-262-4012

Attorneys for Plaintiff Waste Action Project

415-262-4040 (fax)

7 lchinn@bdlaw.com

8 Attorney for Defendant Harold LeMay

9 Enterprises, Inc.

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CONSENT DECREE: No. 12-05441-BHS

p. 11

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